



# **Civics**

## **Student Background Questionnaire**

---

**2006**  
**Grade 4**

## DIRECTIONS

In the next two sections, you will be asked questions about yourself and your education. We will read the first section together. To answer these questions, fill in the oval beside the answer that is true for you. For example, fill in the oval beside your answer to this question:

How many movies did you see last month on television and in movie theaters?

- ☐ Ⓐ None
- ☐ Ⓑ 1 to 5
- ☐ Ⓒ 6 to 10
- ☐ Ⓓ More than 10

You should have filled in the oval beside the answer that best tells how many movies you saw last month on television and in movie theaters. On questions like this, be sure to make your answer mark clear and dark in the oval. If you make a mistake or want to change your answer, be sure to completely erase any unwanted marks.

You will be told when it is time to begin and end each section.

Do not go past the  sign at the end of each section until you are told to do so.

If you finish before time is called, go back and check your work on that section only. Use your time carefully. Do as much as you can in each section.



## SECTION 3

### Section 3

In this section, please tell us about yourself and your family. The section has 14 questions. Mark your answers in your booklet.

VB331330

1. Are you Hispanic or Latino? Fill in **one** or **more ovals**.

- Ⓐ No, I am not Hispanic or Latino.
- Ⓑ Yes, I am Mexican, Mexican American, or Chicano.
- Ⓒ Yes, I am Puerto Rican or Puerto Rican American.
- Ⓓ Yes, I am Cuban or Cuban American.
- Ⓔ Yes, I am from some other Hispanic or Latino background.

VB331331

2. Which of the following best describes you? Fill in **one** or **more ovals**.

- Ⓐ White
- Ⓑ Black or African American
- Ⓒ Asian
- Ⓓ American Indian or Alaska Native
- Ⓔ Native Hawaiian or other Pacific Islander

### Section 3

For the rest of the questions in this section, fill in only **one** oval for each question.

VB331333

3. Does your family get a newspaper at least four times a week?

- ☐ (A) Yes
- ☐ (B) No
- ☐ (C) I don't know.

VB331334

4. Does your family get any magazines regularly?

- ☐ (A) Yes
- ☐ (B) No
- ☐ (C) I don't know.

VB331335

5. About how many books are there in your home?

- ☐ (A) Few (0–10)
- ☐ (B) Enough to fill one shelf (11–25)
- ☐ (C) Enough to fill one bookcase (26–100)
- ☐ (D) Enough to fill several bookcases (more than 100)

VB331336

6. Is there a computer at home that you use?

- ☐ (A) Yes
- ☐ (B) No

VB331337

7. Is there an encyclopedia in your home? It could be a set of books, or it could be on the computer.

- ☐ (A) Yes
- ☐ (B) No
- ☐ (C) I don't know.

TB001101

8. About how many pages a day do you have to read in school and for homework?

- ☐ (A) 5 or fewer
- ☐ (B) 6–10
- ☐ (C) 11–15
- ☐ (D) 16–20
- ☐ (E) More than 20

VB331339

9. How often do you talk about things you have studied in school with someone in your family?

- ☐ (A) Never or hardly ever
- ☐ (B) Once every few weeks
- ☐ (C) About once a week
- ☐ (D) Two or three times a week
- ☐ (E) Every day

VB331447

10. How many days were you absent from school in the last month?

- Ⓐ None
- Ⓑ 1 or 2 days
- Ⓒ 3 or 4 days
- Ⓓ 5 to 10 days
- Ⓔ More than 10 days

VB330870

11. How far in school did your mother go?

- Ⓐ She did not finish high school.
- Ⓑ She graduated from high school.
- Ⓒ She had some education after high school.
- Ⓓ She graduated from college.
- Ⓔ I don't know.

VB330871

12. How far in school did your father go?

- Ⓐ He did not finish high school.
- Ⓑ He graduated from high school.
- Ⓒ He had some education after high school.
- Ⓓ He graduated from college.
- Ⓔ I don't know.

VB331451

13. How often do people in your home talk to each other in a language other than English?

- Ⓐ Never
- Ⓑ Once in a while
- Ⓒ About half of the time
- Ⓓ All or most of the time

HE002549

14. Which of the following best describes your high school program?

- Ⓐ General
- Ⓑ Academic or college preparatory
- Ⓒ Vocational or technical



## SECTION 4

### Section 4

This section has 9 questions. Mark your answers in your booklet. Fill in only **one** oval for each question.

VB594977

1. How often do you study social studies in school?

- ☐ Ⓐ Never or hardly ever
- ☐ Ⓑ Once or twice a month
- ☐ Ⓒ Once or twice a week
- ☐ Ⓓ Almost every day

ID100192

2. During this school year, have you studied any of the following topics? Fill in **one** oval on each line.

	Yes	No	I don't know	
a. How our government works	<input type="radio"/> Ⓐ	<input type="radio"/> Ⓑ	<input type="radio"/> Ⓒ	ID100193
b. Rules and laws of our government	<input type="radio"/> Ⓐ	<input type="radio"/> Ⓑ	<input type="radio"/> Ⓒ	ID100194
c. Elections and voting	<input type="radio"/> Ⓐ	<input type="radio"/> Ⓑ	<input type="radio"/> Ⓒ	ID100196
d. The President and leaders of our country	<input type="radio"/> Ⓐ	<input type="radio"/> Ⓑ	<input type="radio"/> Ⓒ	ID100197
e. Your community	<input type="radio"/> Ⓐ	<input type="radio"/> Ⓑ	<input type="radio"/> Ⓒ	ID100198
f. Rights and responsibilities of citizens	<input type="radio"/> Ⓐ	<input type="radio"/> Ⓑ	<input type="radio"/> Ⓒ	ID100199
g. How people try to solve disagreements	<input type="radio"/> Ⓐ	<input type="radio"/> Ⓑ	<input type="radio"/> Ⓒ	ID100200

ID100201

3. Do you do any of the following when you study social studies? Fill in **one** oval on each line.

	Yes	No	I don't know	
a. Read from your textbook	<input type="radio"/> A	<input type="radio"/> B	<input type="radio"/> C	ID100202
b. Memorize material you have read	<input type="radio"/> A	<input type="radio"/> B	<input type="radio"/> C	ID100203
c. Read extra material not in your textbook (such as newspapers, magazines, maps, charts, or cartoons)	<input type="radio"/> A	<input type="radio"/> B	<input type="radio"/> C	ID100204
d. Fill out worksheets	<input type="radio"/> A	<input type="radio"/> B	<input type="radio"/> C	ID100205
e. Write reports	<input type="radio"/> A	<input type="radio"/> B	<input type="radio"/> C	ID100206
f. Discuss current events	<input type="radio"/> A	<input type="radio"/> B	<input type="radio"/> C	ID100207
g. Watch television shows, videos, or filmstrips in class	<input type="radio"/> A	<input type="radio"/> B	<input type="radio"/> C	ID100208
h. Discuss television shows, videos, or filmstrips	<input type="radio"/> A	<input type="radio"/> B	<input type="radio"/> C	ID100209
i. Take part in debates or panel discussions	<input type="radio"/> A	<input type="radio"/> B	<input type="radio"/> C	ID100210
j. Take part in role-playing, mock trials, or dramas	<input type="radio"/> A	<input type="radio"/> B	<input type="radio"/> C	ID100211
k. Write a letter to give your opinion or help solve a community problem	<input type="radio"/> A	<input type="radio"/> B	<input type="radio"/> C	ID100212
l. Have visits from people in your community to learn about important events and ideas	<input type="radio"/> A	<input type="radio"/> B	<input type="radio"/> C	ID100213

VB594978

4. This year in school, how often have you been asked to write long answers to questions or assignments that involved social studies?

- ☐ A Never
- ☐ B Once or twice this year
- ☐ C Once or twice a month
- ☐ D At least once a week

VB594979

5. How often do you use computers at school for social studies?

- Ⓐ Never or hardly ever
- Ⓑ Once every few weeks
- Ⓒ About once a week
- Ⓓ Two or three times a week
- Ⓔ Every day

VB594980

6. When you study social studies, do you do research projects about social studies topics using a CD or the Internet? Include things you do in class and things you do for homework assignments.

- Ⓐ Yes
- Ⓑ No

VB595182

7. How hard was this test compared to most other tests you have taken this year in school?

- Ⓐ Easier than other tests
- Ⓑ About as hard as other tests
- Ⓒ Harder than other tests
- Ⓓ Much harder than other tests

VC034559

8. How hard did you try on this test compared to how hard you tried on most other tests you have taken this year in school?

- Ⓐ Not as hard as on other tests
- Ⓑ About as hard as on other tests
- Ⓒ Harder than on other tests
- Ⓓ Much harder than on other tests

VB595184

9. How important was it to you to do well on this test?

- Ⓐ Not very important
- Ⓑ Somewhat important
- Ⓒ Important
- Ⓓ Very important

